

Lecture 16: March 12

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Steiner Tree/Forest: $(s_1, t_1), (s_1, t_1), \dots, (s_k, t_k)$ are given. Interesting cuts : $S \subseteq V$ s.t. $\exists i, s_i \in S$ and $t_i \in \bar{S}$.

Primal Dual For Steiner Tree Problem

The Primal LP for our Steiner Tree problem as discussed in previous class will be:

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \sum_{e \in E} w_e x_e \quad \text{s.t.} \\ \text{for each } e \in E, \quad & x_e \geq 0 \\ \text{for each interesting cut } S \subseteq V, \quad & \sum_{e \in \delta(S)} x_e \geq 1 \end{aligned}$$

Note that the constraint $x_e \leq 1$ would be redundant. Now, the corresponding Dual LP would be:

$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & \sum_{\substack{S \subseteq V \\ S \text{ is interesting}}} y_S \quad \text{s.t.} \\ \text{for each interesting } S \subseteq V \quad & y_S \geq 0, \\ \text{and for each } e \in E, \quad & \sum_{\substack{S \subseteq V \\ S \text{ is interesting} \\ \text{and } e \in \delta(S)}} y_S \leq w_e \end{aligned}$$

Complementary Slackness conditions:

I Dual complementary slackness:

$$x_e \neq 0 \implies \sum_{\substack{S \subseteq V \\ S \text{ is interesting} \\ \text{and } e \in \delta(S)}} y_S = w_e$$

II Primal complementary slackness:

$$y_S \neq 0 \implies \sum_{e \in \delta(S)} x_e = 1$$

Primal Dual Algorithm

- Start with some feasible dual solution (say $y_s = 0 \forall s$). Look for primal feasible solution (integral) X which satisfies **I** (if an edge is tight ($\sum_S y_S = w_e$) you can take $x_e = 1$).
- If success, then done.
- If fail, then try improving the dual. How to do this? Suppose you find some S s.t. all edges in $\delta(S)$ are non-tight. Then increase y_S such that you get atleast one more tight edge. Now the question is how to find this S ? Take the subgraph of tight edges G' and see if for each i , s_i is connected with t_i , $s_i \sim t_i$. If not, then there will be an interesting cut S such that $\delta(S)$ is empty in G' , that is, all edges in $\delta(S)$ are non-tight.

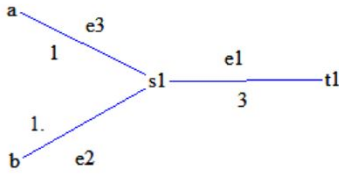
- Finally, say we have a primal feasible \mathbf{x} . Suppose x satisfies the primal complementary slackness approximately. That is, let γ be such that

$$y_s \neq 0 \implies \sum_{e \in \delta(S)} x_e \leq \gamma$$

Then,

- **Claim:** \mathbf{x} is γ -optimal (Homework)

Example run of Algorithm



The following four will be interesting cuts with corresponding dual variables y_1, y_2, y_3, y_4 .

y_1	$\{s_1\}$	$\{t_1, a, b\}$	$[e1, e2, e3]$	$x_{e_1} + x_{e_2} + x_{e_3} \geq 1$
y_2	$\{s_1, a\}$	$\{t_1, b\}$	$[e1, e2]$	$x_{e_1} + x_{e_2} \geq 1$
y_3	$\{s_1, b\}$	$\{t_1, a\}$	$[e1, e3]$	$x_{e_1} + x_{e_3} \geq 1$
y_4	$\{s_1, a, b\}$	$\{t_1\}$	$[e1]$	$x_{e_1} \geq 1$

Dual :

- $y_1 + y_2 + y_3 + y_4 \leq 3$
- $y_1 + y_2 \leq 1$
- $y_1 + y_3 \leq 1$

Initially : $y_1 = y_2 = y_3 = y_4 = 0$. No tight edges.

Increase y_2 (chosen arbitrarily) : $y_1 = y_3 = y_4 = 0, y_2 = 1$. e_2 becomes tight. Set $x_{e_2} = 1$. Not feasible still.

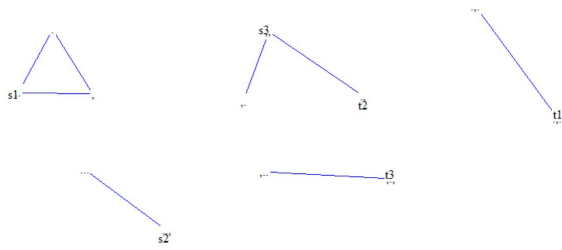
Improve the dual.

Increase y_4 : $y_1 = y_3 = 0, y_2 = 1, y_4 = 2$. e_1 becomes tight. Set $x_{e_1} = 1$. Feasible.

You can throw out e_2 out of the final solution.

Improvement ideas

1. Pruning: Once you get a feasible \mathbf{x} . go back in reverse order over all edges in \mathbf{x} (reverse since the higher cost edges are added later). Set $x_e = 0$ if it remains feasible.
2. Increase many dual variables simultaneously.



Find current set of connected components (in the subgraph of tight edges). Consider interesting cuts T_1, T_2, \dots, T_m increasing all the dual y_{T_i} simultaneously.

More details will follow in the next lecture.